



**The Reverend Evan Keely, M.Div., AIMIT**  
*UUCMC Interim Minister - August 2007 to July 2009*

Rev. Keely is currently completing a two-year interim ministry at Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Somerset Hills in Somerville, NJ. Prior to that he served as the Interim Minister at the Henry David Thoreau Unitarian Universalist Congregation in the Houston area.

Rev. Keely earned his Divinity degree at the Harvard Divinity School after having earned a Bachelor of Music degree in Music History at Boston University. Rev. Keely served internships in MA congregations and was ordained in May 2003 in Cambridge, MA. He also served as hospital chaplain intern at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston.

Rev. Keely is an Accredited Interim Minister in Training (AIMIT) which designates that he has been admitted to a specialized program developed by the Unitarian Universalist Association's Settlement Office for ministers who make interim work their calling. Ministers who complete the program are awarded the Accredited Interim Minister (AIM) designation, attesting to their competence in the primary work of parish ministry and as resident consultants, able to assist congregations in reviewing and revitalizing their operations.

In addition to the abilities to carry out the normal responsibilities of congregational ministry, including worship and pastoral care, AIMITs possess specific skills in:

- assisting the congregation in claiming and honoring its past and in healing its griefs and conflicts;
- illuminating the congregation's unique identity, its strengths, its needs, its challenges;
- clarifying the multiple dimensions of leadership, both ordained and lay, and aiding the congregation in navigating the shifts in leadership that accompany times of transition;
- renewing connections with available resources, within and beyond the UUA;
- enabling the congregation to renew its vision, strengthen its stewardship, prepare for new professional leadership, and engage its future with anticipation and zest.

An Interim Minister enters into an agreement with a congregation to serve for no more than two years, to not stand as a candidate during the congregation's called minister search, and to not provide direct advice on ministerial candidates. By eliminating any conflict of interest, an Interim Minister can focus fully on assisting a congregation in renewing its vision and focus thus enabling the congregation to be best prepared to call a new minister.

Rev. Keely's goal as a professional religious leader is to encourage individuals and communities to discover and nurture their ministries. In his own personal ministry, music remains a source of strength and inspiration, and he enjoys composing and arranging music. It was through music that Rev. Keely met his wife, Sarah. Together with their sons, Joseph and Benjamin, they will be moving to the Lincroft area during the term of his interim ministry.

We welcome Rev. Keely to our congregation and look forward to engaging and productive dialogue drawing on his training and experience as we seek to clarify our own vision and focus, and prepare ourselves to welcome a new permanent minister in two years time.